

# Region 3 Outdoor Report



February 13, 2015

# **Hunting Season Info.**

## Deer - See Deer Application for unit maps

East River Deer - CLOSED Archery Deer - CLOSED

**Muzzleloader Deer - CLOSED** 

Youth/Mentor Deer - CLOSED

\*Legal shooting time is one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset

### Waterfowl – Population Index: Click Here

## **Ducks – See unit map in hunting handbook**

Low Plains North - CLOSED Low Plains Middle - CLOSED

Low Plains South - CLOSED

## Canada Geese – See unit map in hunting handbook

Unit 1 - CLOSED

Unit 2 - Open until February 15

**Light Geese - CLOSED** 

White-fronted Geese - CLOSED

\*Legal shooting time is one-half hour before sunrise to sunset

#### **Pheasant**

Statewide - CLOSED

## Turkey – See Turkey application for unit map and exceptions

Fall - CLOSED

**Spring -** April 11 - May 17 except Davison/Hanson & Lincoln counties. **Turkey Apps are available.** 

\*Legal shooting time is one-half hour before sunrise to sunset

## **Aurora County**

#### Lynn Geuke

**Fishing report:** Fishing has been Slow. **Wilmarth Mitchell:** Fishing has been slow.

Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"

Nelson Lake: No report.

**Hunting report:** It's a good time to target coyotes and cottontail rabbits. Happy Hunting! Reminder all 2014 licenses expired on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. MAKE SURE TO RENEW YOUR LICENSES!

# **Beadle County**

#### **Chris Kuntz**

Fishing Report: Ice conditions have improved but still use caution. Vehicle travel is not advised.

<u>James River</u>: No activity. <u>Lake Byron</u>: No activity. <u>Mud Lake</u>: No activity.

Cavour Lake: Minimal activity.

Ravine: No activity.

**Hunting Report:** Not much activity observed.

## **Bon Homme County**

**Todd Crownover** 

**Fishing Report** 

Missouri River Ice conditions are not good.

Lake Henry: Beware of ice thickness. Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"

Clear Lake: No report.

Merkel Lake (Singleton GPA): No activity.

West Heritage GPA Pond: No activity. Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"

**Hunting Report:** No activity.

# **Brookings County**

**Jeff Grendler** 

**Fishing Reports:** Ice conditions are marginal. Colder temps have improved conditions but caution is advised.

Lake Sinai: Fishing has been slow. Off limits to game fish spearing.

West Lake Oakwood: Slow.

East Oakwood: Slow. Oak Lake: No activity.

Brush Lake: A few perch biting. 8-10 inches.

<u>Lake Poinsett</u>: A few walleyes and the occasional perch. Fishing has been slow. Walleye: Minimum Length 15" East 81 ponds: A few walleyes have been caught 14-16 inches. A few perch have been caught 10-12 inches. Off

limits to game fish spearing.

Lake Hendricks: Slow, little to no activity. No highgrading of any species.

Lake Goldsmith: Slow little to no activity.

<u>Lake Campbell</u>: No activity. <u>Dakota Nature Park</u>: Slow. <u>Interstate Lake</u>: Slow.

Big Sioux River: No activity.

**Hunting Report:** There have been some issues between coyote trappers and callers. If you come across a wild animal in a trap you must leave the animal alone. Removing or tampering with a trap or animal in a trap other than your own is illegal. If you have questions whether the traps are being checked please contact your local Conservation Officer.

## **Clay County**

**Tony Stokely** 

Fishing Report:

<u>Missouri River</u>: No activity. <u>Vermillion River</u>: No activity.

**Hunting Report:** Trapping activity has been minimizing with lack of snow.

# **Davison County**

**Andy Petersen** 

Fishing Report: Always use caution on the ice.

Remember Firesteel Creek is off limits to the taking of any baitfish.

**<u>Lake Mitchell</u>**: Some small bluegills and crappie are being caught, a few nice sized northern.

Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass & Walleye: Minimum Length 15"

James River: No report.

Firesteel Creek: Off limits to the taking of any baitfish. Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass & Walleye: Minimum

Length 15"

**Hunting Report:** It's a good time to hunt rabbits and predators.

## **Hanson County**

#### **Andy Petersen/Matt Talbert**

Fishing Report: Always use caution on the ice.

Lake Hanson: No report. Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"

<u>Ethan Dam</u>: No report <u>James River</u>: No report

**Hunting Report:** It's a good time to hunt rabbits and predators.

## **Hutchinson County**

#### **Brian Humphrey**

Fishing: A few walleye still being caught at Dimock Lake. I heard some reports of Bluegill being caught at Menno

Lake.

Dimock Lake: No activity. Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"

**Hunting:** No activity.

## **Jerauld County**

#### **Lynn Geuke**

Fishing Report: No report.

**Hunting Report:** It is a good time to hunt predators. I have heard reports that coyotes have been tough to call this year. Also there are many places to kill cottontail rabbits. Happy Hunting! Reminder all 2014 licenses expired on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. MAKE SURE TO RENEW YOUR LICENSES!

## **Kingsbury County**

#### Shane Van Bockern

Fishing Reports: BEWARE ICE CONDITIONS.

**<u>Lake Thompson</u>**: Fair-good for walleye crappie and perch.

<u>West 81</u>: Fair for walleye and a few perch. Off limits to game fish spearing. <u>Lake Whitewood</u>: Decent for perch but a lot of little ones to catch a keeper.

<u>Lake Henry</u>: Slow. <u>Lake Albert</u>: Slow.

Spirit Lake: Slow for walleye perch and a few pike.

Lake Preston: No activity.

**Hunting Report:** No activity.

## **Lake County**

#### **Cody Symens**

Fishing Report: Ice conditions are not good. Vehicle travel not advised. Beware of false tops!!

Lake Madison: Slow.

<u>Lake Herman</u>: Minimal pressure. <u>Brant Lake</u>: Minimal angling pressure.

Long Lake: No report.

**Lake Henry**: 8-10" walleyes are most common with the occasional keeper.

Lake George: Minimal pressure.

**Hunting Report:** It's a good time to hunt rabbits and predators.

## **Lincoln County**

#### **Nate Stukel**

**Fishing Report:** 

Big Sioux: No activity because of poor ice.

Lake Alvin: Poor ice conditions. Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"

Lake Lakota: Very little activity the past week.

Nine Mile Creek: Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"

**Hunting Report:** No activity observed.

## **McCook County**

#### **Matt Talbert**

**Fishing Report:** Ice conditions have gone downhill. Use caution.

Lake Vermillion: Minimal activity. Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"

Island Lake: Minimal activity. Off limits to game fish spearing.

**Lehrman Slough:** No fishing activity seen.

**Hunting Report:** Hunters looking for something to do should target predators and rabbits.

## **Miner County**

#### **Evan Meyer**

Fishing Report: Fishing activity has been slow.

Carthage Lake: No activity. Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"

**Hunting Report:** There are plenty of coyotes out there, just keep in mind of the regulations such as not using snowmobiles to hunt coyotes.

## Minnehaha County

#### Jared Hill

Fishing Report: Ice conditions have been improving. Vehicle travel not advised.

Beaver Lake: Minimal activity.

Scott Slough: Small perch fair. Otherwise, a few walleye and crappie.

Island Lake: A few perch and walleye. Off limits to game fish spearing.

<u>Loss Lake</u>: Minimal activity. <u>Lost Lake</u>: Minimal activity.

Twin Lakes: Walleye fair late afternoon and evening. Walleye: Daily limit 1; Minimum length 28"

Family Park: Little activity.

Wall Lake: A few small perch and bluegills.

Clear Lake: No reports.

**Diamond Lake:** Small perch fair along with a few small walleye.

**Hunting Report:** It's a good time to predator hunt.

# **Moody County**

#### **Chad Williams**

**Fishing Report:** 

Big Sioux River: No activity.

**Hunting Report:** Coyote hunters are reminded to secure permission before shooting coyotes on private land. Also the use of snowmobiles is prohibited to chase, drive, harass, kill, or attempt to kill any game animal or game bird to include coyotes.

# **Sanborn County**

**Evan Meyer** 

Fishing Report: Fishing activity has been slow.

Hunting Report: There are plenty of coyotes out there. Just keep in mind that it is illegal to use snowmobiles to

hunt coyotes.

## **Turner County**

**Brian Humphrey** 

Fishing Report: No activity observed.

Hunting: No activity.

# **Union County**

**Tony Stokely / Nate Stukel** 

**Fishing Report:** 

<u>Missouri River</u>: No activity. <u>Big Sioux River</u>: No activity.

McCook Lake: No activity. Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"

**Hunting Report:** Trapping activity has been minimizing with melting snow.

## **Yankton County**

**Dan Altman** 

Fishing Report: Use caution on all lakes.

Marindahl: Minimal activity and success. Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum Length 15"

Lewis and Clark: Minimal activity and success. Ice conditions vary with the warm weather received last week.

Walleye: Minimum Length 15"

James River: No activity.

<u>Lake Yankton</u>: Lake Yankton was chemically renovated in fall 2014 to eliminate invasive fish species. It has been restocked but it may be 1-3 years before good fishing returns.

<u>Missouri River</u>: Most fishing activity has been near Gavin's Point Dam. Anglers are picking up occasional walleye, white bass and drum. Remember discarding rough fish on shore lines is illegal.

**Hunting Report:** A few isolated reports of snow geese have come in this past week but the majority of geese are still south in Nebraska.

Predator hunters are having varied success in the area. Most of the snow melted last week with the warm weather.